

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 23-46 remain pending in this application. No claims are presently amended or canceled. Accordingly, no new matter has been introduced. Pursuant to the Examiner's request, Applicant has updated the priority information to include the patent number (6,626,937) issuing from parent application 09/713,708.

II. Obviousness Type Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 23-25, 27, 29, 32, 34, 37, 39-43, and 46 have been provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,626,937 B1 (the '937 patent). This rejection has been rendered moot by the filing of a terminal disclaimer over the '937 patent. Therefore, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments